No. 83 - Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF ORWIGSBURG, PA

May 2015

Sewer Project • Street Paving • Borough Hall Restoration

Spring Blooms With Bond Issue, Creative Funding



BUDDY TOUCHINSKY Council President

After a long, cold and snow-filled winter, we finally made it to spring – a time when flowers and trees start blooming and growing again. Metaphorically speaking, the Borough has been going through the same process, emerging from several years of "winter."

The economy was poor and people have been struggling. Some local businesses closed and some moved from

our town. Revenue fell flat or declined. Your borough has been in "winter mode," hunkering down to survive the elements. We cut spending where we were able; we put off projects that weren't absolutely necessary. When grants were unavailable, we found other sources of funding.

After a long "winter," spring finally comes. We've reached the tipping point at which we can see the bor-

ough's economic improvement ... "It's finally spring!" Revenue is looking better and we're starting to see more grant funding opportunities come available. Borough management and council are finding ways to get things done so we can provide the services and infrastructure residents need and deserve.



So, keeping with the spring analogy, here's a look at some of the flowers you'll see blooming and new growth shooting up in the borough.

YARD SALE SAT., MAY 16

Uptown, downtown, all around the town every resident or business is encouraged to have a yard

sale as part of the fourth annual Orwigsburg Community Yard Sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Due to advance planning and promotion, the show will go on rain or shine.

Want to get rid of some old gems, participate in a community event and earn a little extra money? Put your sale on the map! Register now by calling Orwigsburg Borough Hall at 570-366-3103 or email Michele Rudloff at *rudloff1313@comcast.net*.

The Borough will publish a list of participants and a map to indicate which residents will be hosting yard sales that day, making it available on the borough's website: www.orwigsburg.net and on Facebook.

Infrastructure improvements

Major project #1 has been discussed for quite some time now. It's the sewer main project at South Liberty Street. Total cost of the project will be around \$1 million and will be funded by a municipal bond issue.

In order to issue a bond, we underwent a thorough financial evaluation by Standard and Poor's (S&P). The good news is we were rated second from the highest – AA- – and judged in better financial shape than any – Continued on page 2

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Message from the Council President

ORWIGSBURG BOROUGH

209 N. Warren Street • P.O. Box 128 Orwigsburg, PA 17961 • Ph: 570-366-3103

www.orwigsburg.net

OFFICIALS					
Mayor	Barry Berger				
Council President	Buddy Touchinsky				
Council Vice President	Susan Murphy				
Borough Manager	Robert A. Williams				
Secretary	Sherry Edwards				
Treasurer	Colleen Hoptak				
Tax Receiver	Colleen Hoptak				
Solicitor	Frank Tamulonis				
e e	ARRO Consulting, Inc. Entech Engineering, Inc. Engineering Assoc., Inc.				
Hariovei	Linginieering Assoc., Inc.				

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Fire Chief...... Dave Hardinger

Paul Bedway, Jr. ● Darle Cresswell Edward Mady ● David Rubright Angela Hoptak-Solga

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency	Dial 9-1-1
Non-emergency	570-366-3101
Stanley Brozana,	Chief
Brandon Bayer • John Koury	• Robert Bechtel

STREET DEPARTMENT

Jake Brensinger ● David Teter ● Brandon Wagner

WATER AND WASTEWATER

Patrick Mulqueen ● David Teter ● Jake Brensinger

BOROUGH OFFICE

Sherry Edwards • Kathi Mengle

Orwigsburg Borough Council meets the First and Second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, second floor of the Orwigsburg Municipal Building, 209 North Warren Street.

Both meetings are open to the public. A Work Session for discussions and setting of an agenda takes place on the First Wednesday each month. The Business Meeting is then held on the Second Wednesday.

OFFICIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Orwigsburg Borough offices will be closed on the following days in 2015 in observance of the stated holidays – Good Friday, April 3; Memorial Day, May 25; Independence Day, July 3; Labor Day, September 7; Thanksgiving, Nov. 26 and 27; Christmas eve and day, Dec. 24 and 25.

- Continued from Page 1

other area municipalities and school districts. The better news is that this has given us a great yield rate for the bond issue and relieves us from paying for bond insurance, a saving upwards of \$20,000.

This has allowed us to refinance old debt and establish a payment plan that does not affect our annual budget. What that means to all water/sewer customers is no rate increase due to this project. The project will start this summer and will be completed by fall.

Maintain borough streets

Major project #2 we've committed to is street paving. Through the use of funds in our state Liquid Fuels account and a PennDOT loan against future allocations, we are able to commit \$1 million to help address a significant portion of our borough's deteriorating roads. About three quarters of this money will be spent this year to improve drainage and



resurface the streets that need it the most. Once that is complete we can evaluate the remaining streets and consider doing something similar next year.

The good news about this is the way in which it will be paid for ... and it's not through a tax increase. Each year we receive around \$100,000 from the state, funded by gasoline taxes collected and redistributed to municipalities earmarked for road improvements. Rather than doing smaller \$100,000 projects, the state gives us the flexibility to borrow a larger sum and then use that money in future years to repay the loan. This allows us to use the money today for a larger project, benefiting through more competitive bids, bulk pricing, and being able to get caught up and able to repair street areas before their deterioration becomes a more expensive issue.

Restore/preserve Borough Hall

Major Project #3 we're exploring is to help restore and preserve Borough Hall that houses the borough – Continued on page 4



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HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.*
Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
*Evenings By Appointment
(Closed Sunday)



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Newsletter Particulars

"Orwigsburg Happenings" is a quarterly newsletter of the Borough of Orwigsburg distributed to 1,400 households within the borough.

The newsletter is designed and printed by South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing

960 E. Main St. • Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Ph: 570-385-3120 • Fax: 570-385-0725

E-mail: info@southschuylkill.net www.SouthSchuylkill.net

Publication dates for the next three issues are August 14, November 6, 2015 and February 12, 2016

News Submittals

Nonprofit and community organizations within the Borough are invited to submit news items for consideration. Written submittals must be received by Kathi Mengle in the borough offices, three weeks prior to the publication date.

Advertising

Businesses wishing to reach every household in the Borough of Orwigsburg are invited to advertise in future issues. Contact South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing for more information. Call Barb @ 570-385-3120. All advertisements must be received at least three weeks prior to the publication dates. Ad content is subject to approval and acceptance by the Borough of Orwigsburg.

Council President

- Continued from Page 2

offices, district magistrate, and functions as meeting chambers, the local court, and a polling place for one of the borough's voting precincts. It also is a historical treasure as the old school building. Most agree it is a structure worth saving and shouldn't share the same fate as the old Lehigh Valley Train Station and the courthouse building on the square. Historical preservation grants and state programs are being investigated as potential funding sources to help cover project costs.

Beyond the projects listed above, we have committed to being more proactive in other areas that need to be addressed. Borough council has discussed the purchase of new equipment to enable our staff to perform more projects in-house and on a more regular basis.

We've realized addressing potential problems is much more effective and cheaper than allowing them to become full blown problems. We're also actively exploring solutions to other problems that have been on our radar now for several years, such as sidewalks, curbs, and problems with speeding in certain areas of town, just to name a few.

Enjoy spring and all that comes with the season, and keep an eye out for all of the new "buds" of progress that will be springing up in town during the remainder of this year.

- Buddy Touchinsky, Council President





BUSINESS HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

SATURDAY: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SUNDAY: CLOSED

Spring Fling! First visit to Doggie Day Care is FREE

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Gary H. Geschwindt, Supervisor

26 Chestnut St. | Cressona. PA 17929 570.385-3050

C. Elmer Ebling, Supervisor



25 East Main St. | Schuvlkill Haven, PA 17972 570.385.3382

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Our Town Orwigsburg

All filming is now complete and the WVIA-TV film editors are doing their magic to put the finishing touches on the one-hour, day-in-the-life scrapbook featuring Orwigsburg.

It's the latest in the northeastern Pennsylvania public broadcasting television station's Our Town series. This one – Our Town Orwigsburg – is set to premier on Thursday, June 4 at 7 p.m.



NOT JUST JOANIE – Joanie Mistishen Hollenbach was one of many interviewed for the Our Town Orwigsburg video



The video focuses on the people, places and happenings of Orwigsburg as seen through those residents and town enthusiasts who attended several "story idea" meetings facilitated by WVIA production personnel in March.

Those ideas were then put to story form, augmented by photos and newly shot video, and told before a television camera during one long day of filming April 25. Some of your friends and neighbors, normal townspeople, provided the on-camera narrative in interview format.

The first airing of the final video on June 4 will be punctuated by live interviews with many of those local people and town officials as they take viewer calls during breaks in the show.

Mark this one on your calendar. You surely don't want to miss this showing.

Memorial Day chicken barbeque

Make plans now to join family, friends and neighbors at the annual Memorial Day chicken barbeque hosted by the Orwigsburg Lions Club! A decoration day tradition, the barbeque will be held in the Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall, Grove and North Washington streets on Monday, May 25, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Each dinner includes a generous portion of delicious, freshly grilled barbecued chicken, a baked potato, corn, coleslaw, a

cold drink and ice cream. Tickets are \$8 each and can be purchased from any Orwigsburg Lions Club member. Tickets are also available in advance at Healthy Habits Natural Market, Rt. 61 Orwigsburg, and will be available for walk-ins on Memorial Day. Choose to dine in at Memorial Hall (featuring fully upgraded bathrooms and air-conditioning) or take-out is available

Don't wait too long to purchase your tickets. Last year was a sell-out! All funds raised are used for community improvement projects by the Lions Club and to assist those in need in the Orwigsburg area.

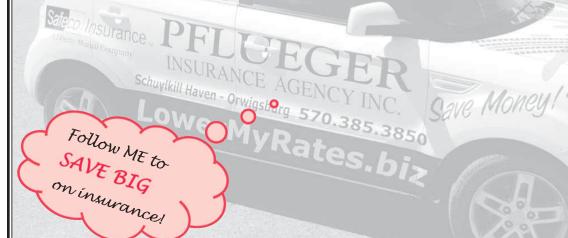
- Continued on page 8





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Continued from Page 6 Postal food collection

The Postal Carriers Food Drive and collection to benefit the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry will be held May 9. Help the local pantry and those in need by placing non-perishable food items in a bag at

your mailbox for your postal carrier to pick up. The post office, the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry, and all those who are served thank you.

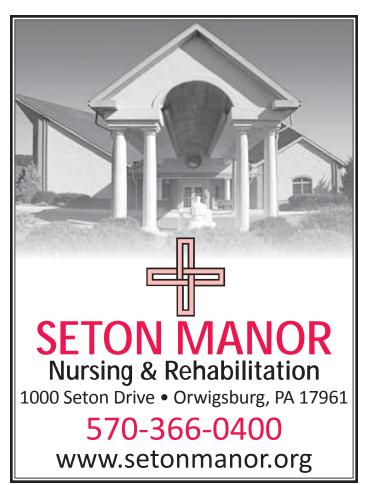
The pantry is located at St. John's United Church of Christ, E. Market Street and distributes to qualified recipients on the third Saturday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m.

Community clean-up

Orwigsburg Lions Club members have been busy this spring with community clean-up projects around

town. The annual Schuylkill Keep It Pretty (SKIP) clean-up of roadside trash is a regular for the club, starting at Route 61 by Schaeffer's Harley-Davidson and finishing at the jug handle by The Freeze.

Getting Albright's Woods ready for the summer season was another project members enthusiastically joined as part of the inaugural Captain Jason B. Jones Memorial Day of Caring on May 8.



New flag pole on the square

The local Lions Club Project Committee partnered with SAPA Extrusions, Bartush Signs, and the Borough to replace the existing flag pole on Centre Square with a new 30-foot pole in time for the Memorial Day parade and ceremony.

SAPA Extrusions, Cressona, donated the 30-foot flag pole; the Orwigsburg Borough crew will remove the existing pole and dig the hole for the new pole; the Lions Club will pay for the concrete; and Bartush Signs will be setting the pole in time for the Star Spangled Banner to be played and gun salute by the honor guard.

Square beautification

Sheila Deibert, owner/operator of Sheila's Floral Gallery, has once again donated and decorated the hanging flower containers on the square.

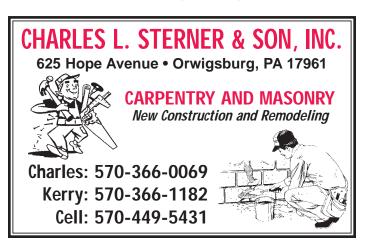
Team Orwigsburg

Local faith-based mission group, Team Orwigsburg, just completed another out-of-state mission trip to Crisfield, Md. The team's third trip to Crisfield to

"heal hearts and homes," this area was hit very hard by Hurricane Sandy. There were still families waiting for roofs to be repaired or replaced. Many other projects were assigned to the team by Volunteers in Mission through the National Methodist Church.

Team Orwigsburg members meet the first Monday of each month at Salem United Methodist Church beginning at 7 p.m. New faces are enthusiastically welcome. Local church affiliation is not necessary, but the team does ask new members be committed to help raise the funds necessary to do local mission work and to travel one time each year for a week out of the area.

Community activities for all to enjoy and a means to raise funds include providing refreshments during the recent Chad Reinert concert at the Veterans Memorial Hall. The public is invited to a spaghetti dinner Saturday, May 16 at St. John's UCC Fellowiship Hall from 5 to 7 p.m. Family Fun Day will be held once



again this year on Saturday, Sept. 26 at the Veterans Memorial Hall complex.

For additional information on Team Orwigsburg, call Susan McCartney at 570-943-2103.

Scam alert!

The Orwigsburg Fire Department's annual fund drive is currently underway. You should have received a letter in the mail, along with a return envelope in the past week or so. Note that the fund drive appeal is only made by mail and never by telephone. As always, the department appreciates your support.

Coincidentally, there is an organization called "Firefighter's Charitable Foundation" conducting a



Foundation" conducting a telephone solicitation in our area. A local resident reports getting such a call. Although the caller gave very vague answers to specific questions, he implied that this solicitation would

benefit Orwigsburg's firefighters. This is simply not true. Neither the fire company, nor any of our area's volunteer emergency services have any connection to this organization and DO NOT receive any funds from them. Don't be misled by these scam artists.

Obey emergency signals

Called the Traffic-Control Devices Warning of

Hazardous Conditions Law, it is illegal to drive around or through signs or traffic control devices closing a road or highway due to hazardous conditions, such as flooded roadways. A conviction for violation of this law results in two points added to your driving record and a fine of up to \$250.

Additionally, if emergency responders are called out because of your actions, the fine is increased to up to \$500 and you will be held liable for repaying the emergency response costs.

Fire police volunteers needed

With spring in the air, we begin to prepare for community events kicking off with the Memorial Day parade and following with Heritage Day, the Halloween parade, and the Festival of

Lights. If you can afford a little time, the Orwigsburg Fire Police could use your help to make these events run safely. Interested? Call 570-366-2473 to find out more.

In need of health aids?

Are you or a loved one in need of any of these items to aid in recovery from illness or surgery?

- Wheelchair
- Walker stationary & folding
- Hospital bed manual & electric

- Continued on page 10



Replace your countertop, change your hardware, or Start from scratch and remodel your whole kitchen or bathroom MRD LUMBER can help!!!

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STOP IN Let us help!

- Continued from Page 9
 - · Cane single and multi-legged
 - Crutches
 - Shower seat
 - Bedside commode/bedpan
 - Over-toilet seat with handrails
 - Temporary tub hand rail
 - Recliner chair with auto-lift seat

The Orwigsburg Lions' "Health Equipment Loan Program" provides these items to local residents at no charge as a community service. To arrange a loan, call Larry Dagna at 570-617-6149 or Walt Schimpf as a secondary contact at 570-366-0784 or call 570-449-0659 and leave a message.

Getting the word out

We use the Borough website www.orwigsburg.net as a valuable tool to keep residents and property owners informed about the happenings in the Borough.

Our staff will keep the home page current with news on upcoming events and information on past events in the Borough.

The website lists borough meeting schedules. Minutes from these meetings are posted after they have been reviewed and approved by the appropri-

ate body. The subdivision and zoning codes are also available for all to view. Numerous forms can be accessed, including applications for Albright's Woods usage. Trash day pickup changes will also be posted. Links to other websites, such as the Lions Club, library, churches and fire company are on the website.

The website also includes a link allowing residents to enter their contact information into the borough's Swiftreach 911 emergency notification system. This site allows the Borough to notify residents via telephone, text message and email of boil water advisories, weather emergencies or any other emergencies in a prompt manner.

If you prefer, you may complete the Data Update Form below and return it to Borough Hall. The office will update your information for you.

 	Swiftreach 911 Data Update Form
I	Name:
 	Address:
1	Tel: Cell:
ı	Cell Phone Carrier (required to receive Text Message):
1	Email Address:
ı	RETURN TO: Orwigsburg Borough
 	PO Box 128 Orwigsburg, PA 17961

Large item disposal

One large item may be placed at the curb beside your regular trash once per month.

Regular trash consists of up to six bags of garbage

and up to ten bags of leaves. Residents should place trash at the curb any time after 6 p.m. on evenings prior to collection. Because pickup times vary, do not wait until the

Month	Tues.	Fri.
May	12	15
June	9	12
July	14	17
Aug.	11	14

LARGE ITEM PICKUP DATES

morning of collection to place garbage.

Construction materials (shingles, drywall, cabinets, insulation, etc.) may not be placed at the curb with your regular trash. You must get a dumpster which can be leased from the borough's trash collector, Kreitzer Sanitation at 570-874-3047.

Recycling electronics

The Covered Device Recycling Act of 2010 prohibits landfill disposal of desktop computers, laptop computers, computer monitors, computer peripherals and televisions. If these items are placed on the curb for pickup, Kreitzer Sanitation will not take them. Schuylkill County will accept the items for recycling

during its annual fall cleanup at various locations throughout the county.

Residents may also take computers and components to Staples in Cressona. TVs up to 32 inches may be taken to Best Buy stores in Reading, Harrisburg and Wilkesarre.

Electronics recycling events are held periodically by the Schuylkill County Office of Solid Waste.

Curb your animal

Borough Ordinance 299 prohibits pet owners from allowing their pets to defecate on another property without removing the feces from that property. Those violating this ordinance can be fined up to \$600.

Many residents take advantage of the parks and walking trail and are discouraged by the lack of consideration shown by some pet owners.

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Dumpster? You need a permit

Any resident who rents a dumpster and places it on the street is required to fill out a dumpster permit prior to dumpster delivery. Permits are available at

the borough office at a cost of \$5. The permit is good for three weeks; another permit is required for additional time. Four (4) reflectors are required on each side of the dumpster,



and dumpster wheels must be placed on 3/4" thick pieces of wood so as not to damage the road surface.

Request for cones

Cones are available for use from the Borough. A cone request form must be filled out and is available from the borough office. Forty-eight hours notice must be given to allow time to get the cones delivered to their location and signs made and placed on the cones.

Albright's Woods

It is time to begin planning that spring or summer 2015 event. The pavilion at Albright's Woods is



available for rent for your graduation party, family reunion or other event. Albright's Woods is located on Grove Street in Orwigsburg. The park has a

pavilion with picnic tables and a kitchen available for use. Rental fee for the kitchen is \$75, \$25 of which is a returnable security deposit. If the kitchen is not needed, a \$25 fee is charged. For further details or to make a reservation to use the park in 2015, call the borough office at 570-366-3103.

Take care of your property

Property owners must keep all premises and exterior property free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 6 inches. All noxious weeds are prohibited.

Weeds are defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs provided; however, this term does not include cultivated flowers and gardens.

The property owner must also maintain weeds appearing between sidewalk blocks and between the curb and the street.

"SHUN" Property Maintenance



Inspira "SHUN" Inclina "SHUN" Dedica "SHUN" Perspira "SHUN"

Owner/tenant forms

Reminder to all landlords: Orwigsburg Borough Ordinance #396 requires that every owner/lessor of any apartment, house or other type of rental building shall register with the Borough every year. If any tenant moves from the dwelling during the year, the owner shall notify the Borough within thirty (30) days of said changes. Forms are available at the borough office or from the borough website.

In addition, landlords living in excess of 20 miles from the Borough must designate a local manager for the property. This individual must live within 10 miles of the borough.

Proper disposal of Old Glory

Used flags may be brought to the borough office for proper disposal. Place flags inside the designated mailbox-like container in front of the borough building.

Help us help you

It shall be the responsibility of property owners in the Orwigsburg Borough to number their buildings. The number needs to be placed over/under each front door, or front transom bar or glass or front show window, over or on either side of the entrance or upon a permanent standard, base or support between building and street. The number is

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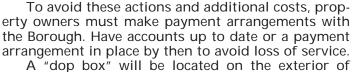
to be of paint, metal, enamel, plastic, or other weather resistant material and at least three inches in height, the color of the numbers to be in contrast to the immediate background, and shall be so placed as to be in full view and legible from the street. No numbers shall be covered with any sign, drapery, or other obstruction and all old numbers shall be removed when a new number is assigned.

Utility bills

As this newsletter is being published, the due date for quarterly utility bills is fast approaching. It is the responsibility of all property owners to pay their bills in full by the due date printed on the invoice.



meet the debt service and operating costs for the water, wastewater and sanitation services. If a bill is not paid after a short grace period, collection efforts will be initiated. If efforts to collect payments are unsuccessful, additional steps could include interruption of service and/or a lien placed on your property. Property owners are responsible for all costs incurred to collect past due obligations.



A "dop box" will be located on the exterior of Borough Hall next to the front door for the convenience of the public. Please do not include cash when dropping off your payment.

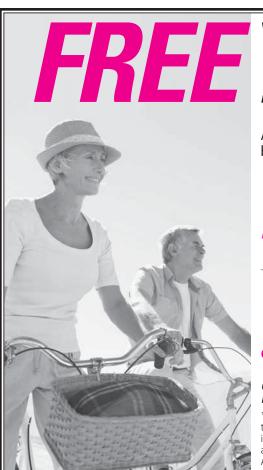
Meter reading

Many water meters are read from a remote reading register attached to the building and connected to the meter. Borough Ordinance 310 requires these units be accessible to the Borough. Landscaping around your remote reading register needs to be maintained so as to not restrict free access.

Master Gardener Helpline

Do you have a question about your trees, flowers, shrubs, lawn, garden soil, vegetables, pH, insects or disease on your plants? The Penn State Master Gardener volunteers are available at the Schuylkill County Cooperative Extension office on Monday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. now through September 30.

Master Gardener volunteers will help you answer your lawn, landscape, and garden questions. Call 570-622-4225, ext. 20 and ask for the Master Gardener line or email: *schuylkillmg@psu.edu*.



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Orwigsburg Office: 100 Hollywood Blvd. 570.366.7790

Other Schuylkill County Offices: Pottsville West Market, Pottsville Park Plaza, Pottsville Commercial/Private Banking

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY). \$50.00 minimum balance required to open, \$750.00 minimum balance is required to earn interest. Rate incentives available for additional Bank services, limited to one of each type per statement cycle, including Direct Deposit, Savings account, automatic transfer, CD, safe deposit box, and others. Rate cap of 0.50% APY applies. See a Bank Representative for further details. Limited time offer, may be withdrawn without any further notice. All accounts subject to approval. Variable rate product available to consumers only. **Free checks are basic stock checks.

Memorial Day - More Than Parades and Bar-B-Q

Observance Salutes Service to Country, Pride in Flag

On May 5, 1868, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) established Decoration Day, later changed to Memorial Day, as the national day to decorate the graves of the Civil War soldiers with flowers.

Major General John A. Logan appointed May 30 as the day to be observed. Arlington National Cemetery had the first observance of the day on a grand scale. The site was appropriate as it already laid to rest the bodies of 20,000 Union soldiers and several hundred Confederate dead.

General and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant presided over the meeting. The central point of these Memorial Day ceremonies was the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion. Speeches were followed by a march of soldiers' children and orphans and members of the GAR through the cemetery strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves. They also recited prayers and sang hymns for the dead.



Even before this declaration, local observances for these war dead were being held at various places. In Columbus, Miss., a group of women visited a cemetery on April 25, 1866 to decorate the graves of Confederate soldiers and the Union soldiers who fell at the battle of Shiloh.

Many cities in the North and the South claim to be the first to celebrate Memorial Day in 1866, but the U.S. Congress and President Lyndon Johnson officially declared Waterloo in New York as the "birthplace" of Memorial Day in 1966. It was said that on May 5, 1866, a ceremony was held there to honor local soldiers and sailors who fought in the Civil War; businesses were closed for the day and residents furled flags at half-mast. It was said to be the first formal, community-wide and regular event.

In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by the Congress, designating the last Monday in May as the day for its observance.

Many states observe separate Confederate Memorial Days. Mississippi observes it on the last Monday of April, Alabama on the fourth Monday of April, Georgia on April 26, North and South Carolina on May 10 and Louisiana and Tennessee on June 3.

In Tennessee, the day is named as "Confederate Decorations Day" while Texas observes "Confederate Heroes Day" on January 19. In Virginia, Memorial Day is better known as "May Confederate Memorial Day."



Playing of Taps

Days is done, Gone the Sun, From the Lake, From the Hills, From the Sky, All is well, Safely rest, God is nigh. Fading light, Dims the sight, And a Star, Gems the sky, Gleaming bright, From afar, Drawing nigh, Falls the night.

How to fold the Flag

This custom of special folding is reserved for the United States flag alone. To properly fold Old Glory, begin by holding it waist-high with another person so that its surface is parallel to the ground.

Fold the lower half of the stripe section lengthwise over the field of stars, holding the bottom and top edges securely. Fold the flag again lengthwise with the blue field on the outside.

Make a triangular fold by bringing the striped corner of the folded edge to meet the open (top) edge of the flag. Turn the outer (end) point inward, parallel to the open edge, to form a second triangle.

The triangular folding is continued until the entire length of the flag is folded in this manner. When the flag is completely folded, only a triangular blue field of stars should be visible.



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Message from the Orwigsburg Mayor

So Long Winter, Not Sorry to See You Go

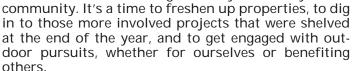
As I write these comments, I think I can finally say "good riddance" to our 2014-2015 winter.

Our magnolia and cherry trees are all in blossom, the daffodils are blooming, the bees are starting to take advantage of the situation, and the birds are doing what birds do in the spring (including a Kamikaze robin that assaulted my storm door win-

> dow ... its second run forceful enough to knock itself out for a few minutes).

> Though not a terrible winter in terms of snow volume, this past season posed more than a few challenges with regard to the frequency and timing of the storms. My hat's off to the borough staff and crew for their efforts to keep our community safely navigable.

> This time of year always brings a flurry of activity in the



It's also a time when roadwork gets underway

with both minor repairs and major projects. The remainder of the Rt. 443 project that will complete the paving from the Orwigsburg Post Office west to Route 61 should commence shortly.

This type of work usually generates the kinds of delays that cause motorists to seek alternate routes or drive more quickly to make up for lost time. I urge your caution and respect in following safe driving practices. The construction season combined with an increase in resident complaints regarding speeding motorists will have the Orwigsburg Police Department increasing speed enforcement practices. Be advised this is not a revenue source for the Borough as, although a citation may exceed \$100, most of those fees go to the Commonwealth. Why not just slow down and keep that cash in your pocket?

Our Town Orwigsburg

New to the mix of events this year, is the highly anticipated production of "Our Town Orwigsburg," the latest in a series produced and aired by WVIA-TV public broadcasting for northeast Pennsylvania.



of townspeople at the first two meetings. This production will be based on community input of stories, video and personal interviews of residents and orga-

I was greatly encouraged by the excellent turnout nizations of the borough and surrounding region.

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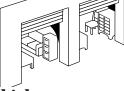
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BARRY J. BERGER

Mayor



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Summer Worship (June, July, August) will be held at 9 a.m. each Sunday, with communion on the first Sunday of each month. No summer Sunday School classes.

Message from the Orwigsburg Mayor

Many interesting ideas were generated to present the history, character, and potential of the area. The first airing of the show will be on June 4. I invite you to tune in.

Memorial Day

Although this issue of Orwigsburg Happenings covers May, June, and July events, its delivery date always makes this newsletter the ideal means to invite everyone in the community to join the Memorial Day activities on May 25. The day gets underway with a parade beginning at 8 a.m. from the Memorial



Building and concluding with a ceremony and featured speaker on Centre Square.

While Memorial Day has always been a great opportunity to engage visitors, friends and neighbors, please show appropriate regard during the proceedings for those whose memory this holiday honors.

In the same vein, I've instituted a practice intended to respect all resident military veterans. In honor of the service to our country provided by each veteran, I will order borough flags lowered to half-staff for a thirty day period upon that veteran citizen's passing.

To assure this recognition and to help in my efforts, please contact me directly, or through the borough office, if I miss any eligible residents.

Enjoy your spring and summer. May these days be safe and enjoyable for all.

- Barry J. Berger, Mayor

SPREAD THE WOR

Interested in submitting an article for next quarter's issue of *Orwigsburg Happenings*? We welcome community service and nonprofit organization information. Please contact Kathi Mengle at 570-366-3103 or kathi@orwigsburg.net

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STATE OF THE ART EQUIPMENT

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Veterans Community Memorial Hall

The Orwigsburg Veteran's Memorial project continues to move forward. This project provides a multifunctional facility to better serve our community and to honor all area veterans. Multiple groups and organizations are heavily using the building. Continued improvements to this building are a key component of our community's future.

Work continues with great progress in the last few months! The exterior of the building has been transformed into a more modern, more accessible and more functional facility.



The exterior improvements of the building are impressive, made possible through the funding of two separate grants, Borough support and Task Force dollars. The work included all new doors; windows, roof

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and a new exterior and insulation finish system (EIFS).

Lighting/electrical improvements and finishing off the large interior conference room – to be named the Lions Den in recognition of the Orwigsburg Lions Club's continued support of this project – still remain in addition to other interior projects to improve the usability of the building. The new entryway and commercial kitchen upgrades are other stand-alone projects yet to begin over the next year.

Grant applications and other funding sources are being tapped for playground updates, the outdoor

> basketball court, drainage and storm water management improvements, concrete sidewalks and the overall site development to create an organized and methodical layout for access and parking.

> Another significant feature of the project will be the construction of a veterans display area near the tank and also in the new entryway. Details are yet to be finalized, but the mission to honor and remember area veterans is still at the heart of all these efforts, thanking all who have served.

The new entryway will be home to the historic Orwigsburg Court House clock that the Schuylkill Lodge F&AM has restored and displayed at various events over the past years.

Local funding is needed to see these final elements completed. New "300 Club" members are needed. Are you able to commit a \$1,000 contribution over three years – \$333 annually for three years (less than \$1/day) – or a one time donation of \$1,000? Various donation levels are available to fit any budget. These can be found on the taskforce website: www.orwigsburgmemorial.org (click on the Community Memorial Hall brochure) or follow on Facebook.

If you are able to support this community project at a higher level, various options are available, including leadership donors who wish to memorialize their family through specific naming rights in the facility.

Home Run Derby is scheduled for Memorial Day morning, May 25. This event further increases the fun, activities and honor of this day at our community facilities.

— Greg Stewart, President

Veterans' Memorial Development Task Force



R&J TOURS – 2015 HAPPENINGS
May 14 – Sands Casino \$35 FSP <i>Orwigsburg Pickup</i> \$24
May 16 – Baltimore Inner Harbor Free Day\$38
May 23 — Brooklyn Neighborhood Tour\$102
June 3 – SHOUT the Mod Musical @ Allenberry\$79
June 6 — Gourmet Shopping in NYC\$40
June 6 – PHILLIES vs. San Francisco Giants\$59
June 11 — Sands Casino \$35 FSP <i>Orwigsburg Pickup</i> \$24
June 12-14 – Pittsburgh Pirates vs. PHILLIES @ PNC Park / 3-Games
Springhill Suites (directly across street from PNC) Variable Rates CALL
June 12 — Cape May Point & Dolphin Watch Cruise\$78*
June 13 — Washington D.C. Free Day\$43
June 13 — "Mamma Mia" on Broadway\$131
June 14 – Charles Town Races & Slots \$20 FSP\$39
June 14-16 – Foxwoods @ Great Cedar Hotel (Package)\$257 p/p dbl
June 16 – Martin & Monroe @ Mt. Airy / \$20 FSP & Lunch Buffet\$63
June 19 — Crayola Factory and Lost River Caverns\$46*
June 20 — Summer Doo Wop @ American Music Theatre (8-Groups)\$70
June 20 – Bronx Zoo\$60*
June 20 — St. Michael's, Maryland Free Day\$52
June 21 – PHILLIES vs. St. Louis Cardinals (Father's Day w/promo)\$65
Aug 1 — PHILLIES vs. Atlanta Braves\$65
Aug 6 – PHILLIES vs. L.A. Dodgers
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Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association

Spring – a time of brighter days, vibrant growth and abundant renewal. As the April showers fell and May flowers now bloom, the Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association (OBPA) is creating a fresh environment with the goal of cultivating new relationships and expand its community reach established over the past several years.

A "Meet & Greet" mixer was held early April at the Oak Hill Inn. The evening presented an opportunity for local business owners to network and talk informally with borough leaders. Special guests included Orwigsburg's new Borough Manager Robert Williams, Mayor Barry Berger, Council President Dr. Buddy Touchinsky, Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bob Carl and Schuylkill County Comissioner Gary Hess.

That same evening, District Justice James Ferrier led the oath of office for OBPA's new officers – Patricia Falco of PawPrints Pet Salon, president; Amber Zanolini of M&T Bank, vice president; Veronica Barnes of CFM Commercial HVAC, secretary; and Jayne Gilbert of Heckman & Laudeman Accounting, treasurer; new board members are Robert Klinger of Klinger State Farm Insurance and Joseph Mattera of the Brick House Grill.



LEADING THE OBPA – 2015 officers and newly elected board members of the Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association are, front from left, Jayne Gilbert, Pat Falco, Amber Zanolini and Veronica Barnes; back, board members Joe Mattera and Bob Klinger.

Community input wanted

New initiatives will dominate the efforts of OBPA members during their regular monthly meetings held the first Thursday of each month. The meeting site will be hosted at member businesses on a rotating basis, giving fellow members a chance to visit and learn from other neighborhood entrepreneurs. It's also a great opportunity for businesses to showcase what makes them unique. Prospective new members are always welcome.

You just missed the May 7 meeting hosted at The Arts Barn; but, OBPA will meet at the Orwigsburg Historical Society June 4 at 4 p.m. and on July 2 at 3 C's Family Restaurant in Molino beginning at 7:30 a.m. Hamilton Funeral Home is the site for the noon meeting on August 6.

To be most effective, ideas are welcomed from all segments of the community, not just members. What improvements would you like to see in our town? As we begin work on OBPA's updated 5-year plan, your input is encouraged.

Are down-town events a positive thing? How important are pedestrian-friendly sidewalks down-town? Are updated welcome signs or signs directing visitors to



Orwigsburg's historical sites something to be considered? Should a gazebo in the town Square be on the agenda?

This organization values your ideas and wants to hear them. Contact us with your opinions by email at *Orwigsburgbusinesspa@gmail.com* or phone me at 610-462-9167.

- Pat Falco, OBPA President



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Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

Happy spring, Orwigsburg! As people are out enjoying the good weather don't forget a visit to the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library.

So much is happening; stop in and see what it's all about. We're at 214 E. Independence Street, call 570-366-1638, access us through the Borough website at www. orwigsburg.net, or follow us on Facebook at OrwigsburgAreaFreePublicLibrary. There are programs and services for all ages.

Book club meets monthly on Monday evening at 6 p.m. Knitters gather on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. All are welcome to play or learn the game of Mahjongg on the first, third, and fifth Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.

The second Wednesday of each month is Lego Club at 5:30 p.m. Builders of all ages are welcome to be part of the fun. The library will host a Lego Extravaganza at Boscov's at the Fairlane Village on Saturday, June 13.

The library will also host "Summer Reading on the Road" on Thursday, June 30 at Boscov's at beginning at 6 p.m.

A summer reading program for preschool and elementary youngsters is already in the works. The theme is "Heroes" and will run from June 23 through August 11 at 11 11 a.m. every Tuesday.

Wednesday Weird and Wacky Science returns this summer June 10 through August 12 at 6 p.m.

It's fascinating for elementary age children. The first Wednesday on June 10 will present amazing bugs.

Storyteller Mark Piazza will visit the Orwigsburg Library on Thursday, June 25 at 6 p.m. for a special presentation of the New York Times best selling children's book, The Day the Crayons Quit.



Family events will be featured on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. Check the library to see what might be planned each week.

Be sure to circle the following future dates on your "definitely want to do" calendar – Run for the Books on Saturday, Sept. 5 and the Orwigsburg Holly Trail on Saturday, Dec. 5.

Think of the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library when shopping. Painless ways to help the library are keytags from Boyer's Food Markets and Save-A-Tape from Redner's. Ask for more information at the library.



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State Senator David G. Argall

Property tax reform should not be partisan

Over the last month, Governor Tom Wolf and his team have tried to tie their property tax "relief" proposal to Senate Bill 76 and House Bill 76 developed over the course of the last several years.



Those who crafted these Senate and House bills deserve a lot of credit because they are willing to make a fair trade eliminate school property taxes in exchange for an increase in income and increase and expansion of sales taxes. Unfortunately, the governor's plan would only deliver limited, targeted relief that would be erased in just a few years.

SENATOR DAVID ARGALL

According to an sis provided by the

Appropriations Committee, out of the state's 500 school districts, only 96 districts are considered net "winners" under the governor's plan. Skyrocketing property taxes are not a partisan issue. Property tax reform is a priority for all of Pennsylvania.

Worst of all, the governor's property tax relief plan does not look out for taxpayers long-term. The state budget secretary said recently a current state

law will limit the growth of property taxes in the future. Just last year, with this law in place, one-third of Pennsylvania's school districts raised property taxes above the capped increase of 2.1 percent. The state's Independent Fiscal Office verified that the property taxes would return to their current levels in only five years.

While I'm pleased to see the issue of property tax reform finally getting the attention it deserves, we need to ensure taxpayers come out on top of this trade through school property tax elimination, not just a temporary reduction.

State Senator David Argall

MONTHLY MEETINGS

1st Wednesday of the Month Borough Council Work Session @ 7:30 p.m.

2nd Wednesday of the Month Borough Council Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.

3rd Wednesday of the Month Planning & Zoning Commission @ 7:30 p.m.





From the Desk of the Fire Chief . . .

Practice Fire Safety this Spring and Summer

It seemed as though winter was never going to end ... one snow storm after another and each day colder than the one before. But the days have finally grown longer and the temperature has started to rise. As we once again begin to move outdoors, a few minutes spent reviewing safety considerations around the home may help avoid a serious injury to a family member or prevent a tragedy.

Barbecue grill safety

- Never use any type of grill indoors; it will cause a carbon monoxide hazard.
- Before using a gas grill, check the hose from the tank to the grill for any cracks or leaks.
- Never use a grill under an awning, roof or covered walkway.
- Keep small children away from grills when they are in use.



Pool safety

Drowning is the second leading cause of death from all causes in children from ages one to 14 years. More than 600 children and adults drown annually in the U.S. and over half of these drownings occur in home swimming pools. Lack of supervision is the leading cause of child drowning

Never allow small children to swim alone in a pool or, for that matter, to be unattended in a bathtub or around any body of water. If you must leave the pool area, take the children with you. Always have a designated "child watcher." Keep pool gates securely closed when the pool is not in use.

Lawn mower safety

Remember and practice the following when operating a lawn mower.

- Small children should not operate push mowers or drive riding mowers.
- Keep children indoors or at a safe distance while you are mowing.
- Always refuel mowers outdoors, never in garages or sheds.
- Turn the mower off and allow the engine to cool before refueling.
- Do not allow children to ride as passengers on riding mowers.
- Turn off the mower and wait until the blades come to a complete stop before trying to unclog the mower.

- Dave Hardinger, Fire Chief



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Orwigsburg Historical Society



The Orwigsburg Historical Society invites the public to regular programs in its Community Room and to also support the collection of Orwigsburg's past through annual membership.

A recent program in April featured a cross-country jaunt by Pine Grove couple Jacque and Mae White in their fully restored 1913 Model T Ford. The personal accounts of their

adventure were of great interest.

The society will hold its monthly membership meeting on Thursday, May 14 at 1 p.m. The public is welcome to come see what membership advantages can be for them.

Life in a one-room school

The next public program and roundtable discussion will be held Wednesday, May 27 beginning at 7 p.m. when the society presents "One-Room School Memories" featuring John Ziegler.

Ziegler will present a "living history" account of recollections of his being educated in the one-room Stanhope School when he was a youngster in Pine Grove Township. The public is invited to share their own experiences of attending school during an informal "roundtable discussion" and to share photos and

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information of local one-room schools and related class photos.

This program will provide a very unique experience for anyone who ever attended a one-room school or currently owns and/or lives in one.



STANHOPE SCHOOL restoration in 2014

A visit to the museum

The society's museum is open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from noon to 4 p.m. and Friday from noon to 3 p.m. In addition to artifacts related to the history and culture of Orwigsburg, you will discover information, photographs, and displays focusing on the history of southern Schuylkill County. The society's holdings include rare publications on the early history of Schuylkill County, cemetery records, and DAR information.

The museum is available for private and group tours. The "Community Center" can also accommodate small groups for luncheons and meetings. For additional information or to schedule a tour, call 570-617-7809.

Become a donor member

Please consider making a donation so the society can continue to grow and sustain its contributions to Orwigsburg and surrounding communities.

On the next page is an annual membership form. To become a member and supporter to preserve the heritage and history of the greater Orwigsburg area, it's as easy as completing the form and sending it with your donation to: Orwigsburg Historical Society, 109 East Mifflin St., Orwigsburg, PA 17961.

Each year it becomes increasingly more difficult to maintain our historic headquarters and keep the museum open to the public. The cost of heating, building maintenance, and other utilities continue to increase at a rapid rate. A donation in any amount will help to keep your society and museum alive.

Honor a friend or loved one

Consider establishing a fund to remember a loved one or honor a special friend or family member in a lasting way. Honorary funds/donations make excellent gifts that offer everlasting meaning. Contact society president Jennifer Bowen at 570-617-7809 to discuss the possibilities.

2015-16 Orwigsburg Historical Society Membership Form Celebrating 21 years of preserving the history and culture of Orwigsburg and southern Schuylkill County Name Street Address _____ State_____ Zip____ City__ E-mail Phone Family \$25 Type of Membership (Please Check One): Individual \$20 All Corporate/Business members will be recognized as such and will be included in special promotions. I would like to make an additional donation in the amount of \$20 Other \$ All current members receive invitations to special programs, reduced admissions to special events, and a 10% discount on museum store purchases! Please mention membership at time of purchase. The Orwigsburg Historical Society has numerous volunteer opportunities. Please indicate areas of interest, 1 below. I am interested in volunteering in the following areas: Membership & Community Outreach (Includes Speaking Engagements for the Community) Genealogy & Historical Research Museum Display Design & Implementation ☐ Keeping the Museum Open for Visitors ☐ Web Site Design & Mastering ☐ Special Events Guild (Events, Fund Raising, etc.) Thank You for your generous Please return this form, in an envelope, along with a check support with your donation made payable to the: to the Society in our Orwigsburg Historical Society 109 East Mifflin Street 21st Anniversary year. Orwigsburg, PA 17961



News from State Rep. Knowles

Corporal David F. Heiser Memorial Highway

At the request of Orwigsburg Mayor Barry Berger and Borough Manager Robert Williams, I introduced legislation to pay tribute to David Heiser who was

killed serving his country in

Vietnam.



Representative Jerry Knowles

House Bill 834 designates that portion of Route 443 through Orwigsburg Borough, from the eastern boundary at Faith Avenue to the western boundary at Seton Manor Drive, as the Corporal David F. Heiser Memorial Highway.

Heiser was a native of Orwigsburg who graduated from Blue Mountain High School in 1965. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1967 and trained

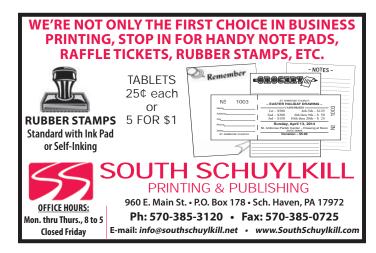
at Fort Benning, Georgia, as an infantryman and as an Army medic.

In 1968, he was promoted to the rank of corporal and was sent to Vietnam. His platoon was ambushed Feb. 2, 1969 in Binh Duong, Vietman, and Heiser was killed in action. He was serving as a medic for his platoon when his life was taken.

Corporal Heiser received the Purple Heart medal for his fatal injuries in Binh Duong and the Bronze Star with Valor for his courageous actions that day. He is buried at Kimmels Church of God Cemetery. Corporal Heiser is remembered and honored on Panel 33W, Row 40, of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

Corporal Heiser's patriotism, commitment and service are an example to us all. He made the ultimate sacrifice for his country and his legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of his community and family.

- State Rep. Jerry Knowles



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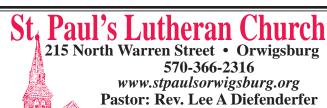
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Kid Scientists	1-3	Fitness Fun	1-4
Farms, feathers, flowersOh My!	3-5	Schuylkill Outdoor Living	3-5
Fit Kids	5-8	Nittany Band Camp	5-8
Broadway Kids	5-8	STEM Challenge	6-8
Crazy Confections	5-8		

JUNE 15 - 19, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. JUNE 22 - 26, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Camp Grades Camp Grades Curtain UP 1-4 Let's Learn Spanish 1-4 3-5 Trash to Treasures Backyard Animal Safari 3-5 What does it mean to be green? 4-6 Crime Scene Investigators 3-5 Schuylkill Voices 5-8 Spanish Prep

For detailed camp descriptions, and **NEW UPDATED PRICES**, visit us online at: www.sl.psu.edu/kidscollege or call 570-385-6209.

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OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

New Worship Times Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

LAST CONCERT OF THE SEASON

SUNDAY, MAY 24 – 7 p.m. Concert of Patriotic Music & Readings

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

BEAR CREEK CAMP'S DAY CAMP Week of June 22 (Mon.- Fri.) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Day Camp provides:

- Daily opening & closing worship sessions
- Classroom Bible Study activities
- Great crafts & fun games

Handicap Accessible

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- 4 top-notch counselors

More info and registration forms will be coming soon or you can call 570-366-2316







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Single-Stream Recycling

Ocircled days indicate biweekly curbside recycling

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Shaded days are trash collection days
Tuesdays – Market Street and north: Frid

Tuesdays - Market Street and north; Fridays - south of Market Street

Large item collection, once per month

Convenient, single-stream curbside recycling is available to residents every two weeks on the designated trash pickup day. Recyclables should be separated from other household trash and placed in the container provided by the Borough and Kreitzer Sanitation, or in a container of the property owner's choice clearly designated for recycling.

Single-stream recycling means items can be co-mingled in one container/recycle bin without the need for separation.

Materials for recycling are collected curbside every two weeks on your designated trash pickup day (see calendar schedule above). Simply place your



recycling bin beside your other trash containers and yard waste.

Use the following guidelines to prepare recyclables for pickup:

- Newspapers and mixed paper should be bundled or placed in a paper or clear plastic bag in order to keep them secure.
- Cardboard should be flattened and bundled.
- Take steps to ensure paper, cardboard and plastic, etc. do not blow around to neighboring properties or streets.
- Glass food and beverage containers are recyclable and include items such as glass soda, beer, wine, liquor, ketchup or juice bottles, and glass food containers. Metal caps and lids should be removed, but labels can remain.

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Single-Stream Recycling

- Glass items such as mirrors, ceramic cups and plates, crystal, clay flower pots, light bulbs, window glass, drinking glass and heat-resistant ovenware are NOT recycled by glass container plants and should not be mixed in with container glass.
- Aluminum beverage cans should be rinsed and crushed. Steel cans need only be rinsed. Leave labels in place.
- Plastic soda bottles and milk jugs should also be rinsed and crushed.
- Be considerate of the streetscape view in your neighborhood; store your recycling container to the side or back of your property or residence.

After following these instructions, combine all materials in one recycling container and place curbside after 6 p.m. the evening before pickup. Recyclables must be in their special container separate from household trash because a separate collection truck is used.

Given the convenience of single-stream recycling, the number of occupants in your household, and the volume collected for recycling, residents may find the need for a smaller or larger container. The borough has two sizes available.

Contact the Borough Office at 570-366-3103 during phone office hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to arrange for a different recycling container or for additional information.





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Kimmels Church

After this long hard winter many people have been excited to see and feel the warm air return to our area. This allows a change of routine. It is now comfortable to get outside and enjoy God's creation. Some people have been energized to begin their spring cleaning projects. Others have begun taking time to think and plan for their summer vacation.



For the family of K i m m e I s Church, the warm air means that we are definitely closer to one of our

favorite times of the year. It takes place in summer, but it is not summer itself. No... it's Vacation Bible School time July 19-24 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. each evening.

The theme this year will be Lifeway's Journey Off The Map taking children to uncharted territory where they will begin to understand that obedience to God can lead them beyond the expected. So, toss the map, stick close to your guide, and prepare to listen for God's direction in this journey that is unknown to us, but known by Him.

Kimmels Church invites all area youngsters in kindergarten through sixth grade to join in for an amazing time of discovery, fun, and an adventure like none other. Take part in games, great friends, Bible lessons, fun music, and energetic leaders who care about you and your family.

If not completely satisfied, it's free. If, as expect-

ed, you're 100% satisfied, it's still free!

Parents are invited for a family fun night on the final day, July 24, with games and activities for the whole family to enjoy. For more information and to register for Vacation Bible School at Kimmels Church this summer, contact the office at 570-943-2759.

St. John's UCC

"Traditional worship for contemporary souls" is the centering statement best describing St. John's

United Church of Christ, 232 E. Market St., to all those who seek a church home.

St. John's is a multigenerational church where faithful elders are honored, children are encouraged, and youth away at college or in the military are remembered. In existence for 184 years, its thinking







is now! The music program, led by Trena Murphy, is excellent and involves members and guests of all ages.

Pastor John Steitz is the interim pastor at St. John's as the Search Committee begins the task to find a new permanent pastor following Pastor Barbara Kershner's retirement last December. Pastor John, as he likes to be called, greets each member or guest personally before the morning worship service begins and blesses each child in attendance during the children's sermon.

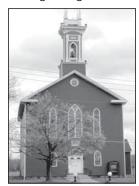
During the month of May, Sunday school classes are held from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. for adults and 9 to 9:45 a.m. for youngsters from age three through sixth grade. Worship is at 10 a.m. with communion served the first Sunday of each month. In June, July and August, the summer schedule will not include Sunday school classes allowing for an earlier worship service from 9 to 10 a.m.

St. John's hosts many regularly scheduled activities throughout the year – Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, a quilting group, senior citizens meetings/programs, a senior exercise program, yoga classes, the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry, dinners for Team Orwigsburg, and an active Health Ministry with year-round programs and blood drives for the community.

The fellowship center is available for rent to hold family or social group activities. Contact the church office at 570-366-2255 for more information.

Zion's Red Church

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Zion's Red Church, 1287 Centre Turnpike (Rt. 61 and Brick Hill Road), Orwigsburg! Zion's offers a traditional style of wor-



ship with a creative interactive flair. The congregation is a union of Evangelical Lutheran and United Church of Christ denominations.

Come as you are. Sunday worship begins each week at 10:30 a.m., preceded by Sunday school and adult Bible study at 9:15 a.m. Creative, interactive elements are a part of all worship services helping all to focus on weekly scripture read-

ings. Sometimes a member will share their faith story and how God has made a difference in their life. Pentecost Holy Communion will be celebrated May 17.

Join the fun of Messy Church on May 17 at 4 p.m. as we Fly with the Spirit!

We call this service "Messy Church" because it's very different from Sunday morning worship. We are part of the international Messy Church movement which is very popular in the UK and just beginning to crop up in this country.

- Continued on page 30



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- Continued from Page 29

It's church - centered around scripture often acted-out by those who attend, plus songs of praise using videos, and discussions about what we are learning. It's Messy - we don't merely sit still and listen; since not everyone learns best through listening, we get our bodies moving and our hands messy by experiencing learning centers such as a prayer station, craft station, and game station.

It's community – we collect food and coins for the local food pantry and do some service projects. It's fellowship too - we enjoy a family-style pizza dinner and take home ideas for reinforcing the lesson at home. This service is for the young and young-atheart. It's for everyone, really.

The annual White Elephant rummage and bake sale is June 20 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. A white elephant sale is a large yard sale of gently-used household items, toys, books, and children's items. The sale again will include a variety of raffle baskets. Lunch items will be available for purchase including barbecue, hot dogs, snacks, and drinks.

Summer worship begins June 21. Come as you are! Steel guitarist Tom Vollmer will be featured July 12 at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Zion's will have a booth at the Schuylkill County Fair from Monday, July 27 through Saturday, August 1. Alcoholics Anonymous is held every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

For more details on these and other church activi-

ties, and to reserve the church grove for your next event, visit the website: www.zionsredchurch.org or call 570-366-1178.

Salem UMC

Salem United Methodist Church, where "Liberty meets Independence" at 133 S. Liberty St., Orwigsburg offers three unique worship services each Sunday (see advertisement this issue). Many small group activities

offer something for everyone, including Sunday school at 10 a.m. for all ages, children's church at 10:45 for grades one through five, and nursery services available at 10:45 for infants through five years old.

Upcoming special events include a special treat honoring all women on May 10 - Mother's Day - during both



morning worship times. Our God Squad will perform popular songs and a special gift will be given to all women that day. Graduates will be honored on Sunday May 31.

The month of July brings some exciting events for all. The sixth annual Christmas in July sale will be held Saturday, July 11 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on the parish house porch (across the street from the church). This is a re-gifting sale. New or never used





goods, handmade items, and more have been donated for whatever price the buyer wishes to pay as a donation supporting the summer's end block party.

The annual Worship in the Woods (Albright's Woods) takes place on Sunday, July 12 with a service at 10:30 a.m. and followed with a picnic lunch. Come join us as we worship Our Lord in this beautiful wooded setting.

Vacation Bible School - Journey Off The Map week is Monday, July 13 through July 17 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Contact the office for information and registration.

And, of course, the summer would not be complete without our annual Block Party on Sunday, August 30 from 3 to 7 p.m. All the fun takes place outside on the street and it is all FREE. Come spend some time enjoying the music, food and fun. Look for our posters around town for more details this summer.

St. Paul's Lutheran

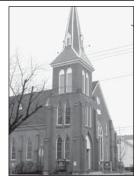
Located at 215 North Warren St. in Orwigsburg, St. Paul's Lutheran Church welcomes all to worship and to be part of the church family. The church office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and can be reached by calling 570-366-2316. Additional information can be obtained at www. stpaulsorwigsburg.org.

Worship services are led by the Rev. Lee A. Diefenderfer, pastor, held each Sunday at 8 and

ANYTHING PRINTED

10:30 a.m. and a Saturday service begins at 5:30 p.m. Sunday school begins at 9:15 a.m.

The final community concert of the spring season will be held Memorial Day weekend on Sunday, May 24 and will feature a concert of patriotic music and readings. The public is encouraged to enjoy this concert beginning at 7 p.m. It features the Orwigsburg Festival



Choir, handbells and instrumentalists. This is a great way to honor all veterans and celebrate the goodness of the United States.

All area children, grades kindergarten through fifth grade, are invited to attend this summer's Vacation Bible School at St. Paul's Lutheran. This year, the church's Christian Education Committee has planed a new twist on VBS with its Bear Creek Camp's Day Camp from Monday, June 22 through Friday, June 26. The camp is held each day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Only 48 slots are available at a small fee of \$25 for the entire week.

This action packed week features a daily opening and closing worship session, classroom Bible study activities, crafts and fun games, and a closing program on Friday. Call 570-366-2316 for more information and to get registration forms.

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Orwigsburg Area Calendar of Events

Enjoy Memorial Day Weekend & Summer Square Time

Celebrate spring and plan your summer activities. There are many special events planned right here in the Orwigsburg area; so mark you calendar and join in the fun.

Memorial Day weekend gets underway Sunday, May 24 with a free patriotic concert at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Beginning at 7 p.m., the concert will feature patriotic music and readings, the Orwigsburg Festival Choir, handbells and instrumen-

The town's Memorial Day parade steps off at 8 a.m. on Monday, May 25. Residents have an opportunity to be part of the parade by riding the Orwigsburg Trolley. Limited seats are available with boarding on a first come, first seated basis beginning at 7 a.m. from the Veterans Memorial Community Hall.

The Orwigsburg American Legion and VFW units will be the focal point of the Memorial Day service on the square at the end of the parade. Honor those veterans who gave their final measure in service to our country, pay tribute to those who returned from conflicts around the globe, and celebrate the service of those who are currently serving.

Note - For public safety and to ensure everyone can enjoy the parade and solemn Memorial Day service, the Square will be closed to motor traffic from 8 to 11 a.m.

Following the service, plan to join your neighbors enjoying a town tradition - the Memorial Day chicken barbeque meal prepared and served by members of the Orwigsburg Lions Club at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall.

Going on at the same time will be Home Run Derby at the Little League field to raise funds for the continued improvements of the Veterans Memorial.

Our Town Orwigsburg

Be sure to tune in to WVIA-TV Public Broadcasting's premier showing of "Our Town Orwigsburg" on Thursday, June 4 at 7 p.m. This first airing will not only showcase the day-in-the-life video, watch live interviews with town officials and residents who played a big part in its production.

Square Time



Orwigsburg Business The Professional Association (OBPA) is proud to announce its fourth annual Square Time events. These special nights are held "on the square" in Orwigsburg and are a great communitygathering opportunity for neighbors to chat, families to enjoy a fun night out,

and to showcase businesses and talented residents. In the event of inclement weather, activities may move to the Veterans Community Memorial Hall on Grove Street.

June Jamboree will be held Thursday, June 25 from 5:30 to 9 p.m., featuring local wineries, beer, food, and artisans. Artists share their creative treasures and diverse works. Regional restaurants and wineries will offer their specialties; cold beer will be on tap; and live music will entertain.

Family Fun Fest promises a carnival atmosphere for all ages on Thursday, August 6 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. The OBPA welcomes all to enjoy summer fun, food, and family entertainment - games, music and more.

Orwigsburg's Heritage Celebration takes place Saturday, Sept. 12, rain or shine. A fun-filled day of music, crafts, demonstrations, artists, games, and food will honor the community's past, celebrate its present, and embrace its future.